

(d) whether the Government have formulated any special action plan to achieve self reliance in the field of petrol; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b)

| | Demand (MT) | Indigenous Production (%) |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| Petrol | 3.884 | 100% |
| Petroleum products | 56.781 | 86% (Approx.) |

The current use of natural gas in the country is about 33 MMSCMD. Natural Gas is indigenously produced.

| (c) | Year | Quantity (In '000 Tonnes) | Value (Rs. Crores) |
|-----|----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | 1988-89 | 6495 | 1559.84 |
| | 1989-90* | 6564 | 2254.71 |
| | 1990-91* | 8660 | 4660.21 |

*Provisional.

Petroleum products are imported both under Term Contracts and through Spot Purchases. Spot purchases are not always relatable to specific countries.

(d) and (e) Steps for increasing self reliance include increasing indigenous crude oil production, augmenting refining capacity by expansion of existing refineries and setting up of new grass root refineries, demand management and conservation measures, inter-fuel substitution.

[English]

Expansion of Calicut Airport

3586. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Kerala for the operation of daily Indian Airlines flight from Bombay to Calicut; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines is operating a daily A-320 service between Bombay and Calicut.

Direct Flight to Canada

3587. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India propose to start a direct flight to Canada; and

(b) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Air India has already started its biweekly services to Toronto via London since 1st of June, 1991.

Foreign Exchange Savings due to Restrictions on sale of Petrol and Diesel

3588. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the extent of foreign exchange saved during National Front Government on account of the restriction imposed on sale of petrol and diesel?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): It is not possible to quantify the impact of any specific factor on the consumption of petrol and diesel.

[Translation]

Train Between Gaya and Howrah

3589. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no daily express train between Howrah and Gaya to facilitate passengers who visit pilgrimage centres on this route and also passengers travelling for business purposes;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce any express train on this grand chord railway line passing through Chota-Nagpur station on this route; and

(c) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) There are 4 pairs of